

REMARKS

Applicant requests favorable reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the preceding amendments and the following remarks.

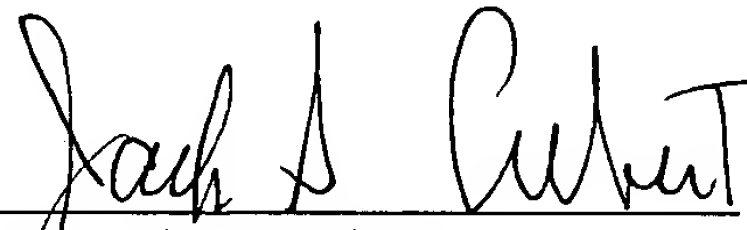
Claims 1-8 and 10-23 are presented for consideration. Claims 1, 10-12 and 20-23 are independent. Claims 8, 10 and 11 have been amended to more clearly define what Applicant regards as his invention. Claims 12-23 have been added to recite additional features of the subject invention to assure Applicant of the full measure of protection to which he deems himself entitled.. Support for these claims can be found in the original application, as filed. Therefore, no new matter has been added.

Claims 1-8, 10 and 11 were previously allowed in this application. Applicant submits that claims 12-23 also should be deemed allowable for patentably defining the illumination system, the exposure apparatus and the device manufacturing method of the present invention. Applicant submits, therefore, that the instant application is in condition for allowance.

Favorable reconsideration and an early Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

Applicant's attorney, Steven E. Warner, may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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